of India have announced a package of measures in the last few years. These measures apply equally to all countries in Europe and Africa, *lnter-alia* these measures include undertaking specific commodity oriented market studies; promotional programmes such as participation in fairs, Buyer-Seller Meets and in distribution of publicity material and exchange of delegations with major European and African countries. The conclusion of annual trade plans is a regular feature of India's export strategy with East European Countries. Since some of the African countries are facing foreign exchange difficulties measures such as special trading arrangements and finding ways and means, speedy liquidation of blocked amounts have been taken to promote exports.

Seizure of Contraband Goods along Indo. Nepal Border

976. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether contraband goods valued at Rs. 85 lakhs were seized in a drive along the 1700 Kms. Indo-Nepal border by the Collectorate of Customs in March, 1989; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the number of persons arrested in this connection ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANIA) • (a) and (b) During the period from 12th March, 1989 to 14th March, 1989, a special anti-smuggling drive was undertaken by the Indo-Nepal border Customs (Preventive) Collectorate 'which resulted in the seizure of contraband goods valued at Rs. 84.86 lakhs in 193 cases. Four persons were arrested.

Bank Loans to Small Scale Industries

977. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the banks give loans to small scale industries for manufacturing related investment;

(b) whether banks are reluctant to finance marketing related activities of these units;

(c) whether Government have received any proposal regarding assistance by banks to small scale units for advertisement and investment in marketing offices etc., and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Reserve Bank of India has reported that banks do extend credit to small scale industrial undertaking involved in manufacturing, processing and preservation of goods. However, bank loans are not given for financial investments *i.e.* purchase of shares etc. by small scale industrial units.

(b) to (d) Reserve Bank of India has advised that marketing is not at present included in the existing norms and does not form part of working capital calculations. A Task Force appointed under the Chairmanship of Shri S. S. Nadkarni, Chairman, Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) had felt that in the norms of financing followed by banks and financial insitutions, provision for financing initial of new products might be considered although it was not possible to lay down any norms for such financing without regard to the nature of product and the type of activity, Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has not yet taken a final view in this matter.